

# **Autism Council Meeting**

## **September 14, 2012**

### **I. Call to Order (8:20 by Colleen Allen)**

**A. Roll Call/Introductions** Present: Colleen Allen (Chairperson) Mary Chaliman, Kimberly Gaedeke, Cynthia Kelly( for Elizabeth Knisely), Joanne Winkelman, Michael Caine, Anthony Ianni, Amy Matthews, Robert Sheehan, R. Wayne Fuqua, Stacie Rulison, Dr. Jane Turner

Guests: Lisa Johnstone (Autism Alliance of Michigan), Jenell Leonard (Office of the Lt. Governor), Esther Onega (Michigan State University Family to Family), Sheri Falvay (Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Lori Irish (MDCH).

Colleen asked members to introduce and give background on themselves. Jenell Leonard on behalf of Lt. Governor Calley thanked members for serving on the new Council.

### **B. Approval of Agenda**

Motion was made by Stacie Rulison, and supported by Wayne Fuqua to approve the agenda. Motion was carried.

### **II. Minutes**

#### **A. None to review (initial meeting)**

### **III. New Business**

#### **A. Review: Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) State Plan History/Overview (C. Allen/A. Matthews)**

1. Amy Matthews walked through slides including history and evolution of Autism Spectrum Disorder State Plan, survey results from 2010
2. Colleen Allen indicated that it is important to keep the big picture in mind; integration across focus areas prevalent throughout plan, that adopting evidenced based practices is important, that the life span (children and adults) is the focus of the Council's work and that working on autism can benefit other developmental disabilities.
3. Colleen provided an overview and logistics of the Executive Order which established the Michigan Autism Council. Colleen indicated that the Council will follow the Open Meetings Act. If subcommittees meet, but are not making decisions, the subcommittee would not be subject to the Open Meetings Act. Cindy Kelly offered to ask Matthew Rick of the MDCH to come to the next meeting and answer questions about the Open Meetings Act. Also Cindy will check with MDCH budget about any funds to support travel of Council members or other incidental expenses. Cindy will also get contact information for the MDCH Public Information Office to provide to the Council related to provision IV. M. of the Executive Order regarding referring all legal, legislative, and media contacts to the Department.
4. The release of the ASD State Plan has been delayed because of the lawsuit against the Michigan Department of Community Health. In addition, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has not signed off on the ASD State Plan and has further edits. A motion was made by Wayne Fuqua, seconded by Jane Turner to create an Ad Hoc committee to review the MDE edits to the ASD State Plan and refer back to the Council with recommendations for final approval at its next meeting. Ad Hoc Committee members: Amy Matthews, Joanne Winkelman, Michael Caine.

#### **B. Review: MI Autism Council Role, Structure, and Priorities (C. Allen)**

1. Colleen reviewed the roles and structure of the Council:  
--Focus areas will have committees and report back to the Council

-- Within the ASD State Plan recommendations, the Council needs to set priorities before breaking out into subcommittees. Colleen recommended two priority areas: 1) Adult Services; and 2) Early identification and intervention.

--There should be a three year plan - short term and long term goals.

--Discussed creating a mission statement in the future, once the Council can review the ASD State Plan.

2. Sheri Falvay and Cindy Kelly reported on the three positions to be established by MDCH. One position is the Michigan Autism Administrator to provide support to the Council. The Training Specialist is a second position who will coordinate training for the workforce for the Medicaid Autism Benefit to be delivered through the Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs)/Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), and a third position is a secretary to support the two professional staff. The Council asked that they be notified when the positions are posted.
3. There was a discussion of funding for the Council. There is no funding for the council per se in the MDCH budget. There are funding opportunities available that the Council will want to pursue. These include the federal Combating Autism Act, state and local grants, and Foundation funding. There is also a funding opportunity called Leading Education for Neuro-Developmental Disorders (LEND) grants that is \$1 million per year for five years. It has to go to a university with a medical school and the principal investigator has to be a physician. It is not autism specific.

#### **C. Review: Autism Council Work—Accessible, Transparent, Inclusive (C. Allen)**

1. **Website:** Kim Gaedeke is taking a lead on talking to web developers who are working with LARA on developing an Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program web site which will have standard codes and descriptions posted.
2. **Meeting Recording and Activities of Council:** Open Meeting activity and minutes need to be kept and posted publicly, once created.
3. **Subcommittee Nomination and Application Process:** Discussion around needing a process. This will be discussed in more detail at upcoming meeting and Colleen will bring a proposed process to review with the group.

#### **D. Evidence-based Standards**

Kim Gaedeke, provided an update on licensure of Board Certified Behavior Analysts by Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the involvement of Senator Rebecca Warren. Kim, representing LARA also requested recommendations from the Council regarding recommended assessment tools and other standards for diagnosis. In addition, since the issuance of the legislation regarding provision of applied behavior analysis by commercial insurance carriers, LARA receives questions about evidenced- based treatments and is asked if LARA intends to keep a list of evidence-based practices. Kim indicated that LARA does not intend to keep such a list and is requesting that the Council provide any list of evidenced- based treatments. I was indicated that the National Standard document has reviewed established and emerging and ineffective, harmful practices.

#### **E. Elect Vice-Chair and Secretary**

Colleen indicated that the Council should determine a vice-chairperson and a secretary.

Stacie Rulison nominated Amy Matthews as vice-chairperson. Wayne Fuqua made a motion to close nominations and vote by acclamation to accept Amy Matthews as the vice-chairperson. Mary Chaliman seconded the motion. The Council approved the motion.

Jane Turner made a motion to nominate Kim Gaedeke as secretary. Wayne Fuqua made a motion to close the nominations and vote by acclamation to accept Kim as the secretary. Mary Chaliman seconded the motion. The Council approved the motion.

#### **F. Schedule Subsequent Meetings**

The next meeting of the Council will be on October 12, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Liz Knisely's secretary will arrange a meeting room location. Future meetings will be scheduled at next meeting.

### **IV. Old Business**

#### **A. None**

### **V. Committee Reports**

#### **B. None**

### **VI. Communication from the Public (5 Minutes per Person) None**

A motion was made by Stacie Rulison to adjourn the meeting. Joanne Winkelman seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.